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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY USSR (Saratov Oblast)

CONFIDENTIAL

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SUBJECT Lenin Hardware Plant # 96 in Saratov

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1. The designation of Lenin Plant in Saratov (51°32'N/46°00'E), Saratov Oblast, was inscribed in large letters at its gate. * The plant covered an area of about 300 x 400 meters.
2. From inscriptions seen in the masonry of many buildings, it was ascertained that the major portion of the installation was built as early as 1890. The mechanical department was built about 1944. It was equipped with German machinery in 1945 and 1946, and put into operation in late 1946. About the same time the nail department and the wire mill were equipped 50 and 100 percent respectively with new German machinery.

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3. [redacted] hand grenades and aircraft bombs were manufactured at the plant during the war. During the reported period of October 1945 to September 1949, 15 to 20 tons of nails of all types, 8 to 10 tons of rail spikes, and 10 tons of wire were produced daily. This output, [redacted]

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[redacted] met the prescribed production plan. Minor quantities of tank bogie wheels, 25 cm in diameter and 6 cm thick, were also manufactured in the summer of 1947.

4. The following semi-finished products arrived by rail from undetermined places: iron and copper wire 10 mm in diameter; iron rods 2 to 4 meters long and 15 to 35 mm in diameter; iron bars 2 to 5 meters long, with a cross section of 25 x 25 or 20 x 20 mm.

5. The plant had a work force of about 1,000 Soviets, half of them women, in each of the three shifts. A total of 300 PWs worked there. **

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* [redacted] Comment. The plant is located in Proletarskaya GLOBODA Street. See Annex for a location and a layout sketch of the plant. The sketches are believed to be approximately correct. Some of the data are confirmed by previous information.

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** [redacted] Comment. The plant, which was founded in 1890, manufactures nails of all sizes and descriptions, cramps, bolts, screws, nuts and rivets, standard wire, zinc-coated wire, barbed wire and telephone wire. The production plan for 1942 was 12,000 tons, an output which would agree with that reported [redacted] for the period from 1945 to 1949. During the war the plant was enlarged, a fact also confirmed [redacted].

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